

Breeder Tips from United All Breed Registry



Worth Watching... a good video on outdoor pet photography



Exciting pop-art portraits made from your own photos:



Original photo --



Pop-art pet portraits by:



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9 Hot Tips for the most appealing animal photos

1. **Use natural light for best colors.** Sunlight thru a window is fine. Outdoors on an overcast day is great. Use fill flash. Indoors, balance the light with non-flourescent electric lights to avoid too many shadows and use only a bounced flash.
2. **Get on eye level.** Sit on the ground or put pups up on a chair or table to get at eye level with your 4-legged subjects. Shoot from a distance, using zoom, to avoid that wide-angle "big nose" effect. Here are two pics I just shot of my cat, Feliz, to demonstrate.



The first was shot from close range with the standard wide angle lens of my Panasonic Lumix, without flash. For the second shot, I stepped back a few feet, zoomed in and allowed auto-flash. No other changes were made to lighting, f-stop, etc. The zoom "flattens" the image -- and flatters your pet!

3. **Keep out clutter.** Use a simple background or get a backdrop cloth. Here's a link to a 10'x20' white [backdrop on Amazon.com](#). Or if possible use a low f-stop setting to keep backgrounds out of focus.
4. **Bring out emotions** by keeping your pups looking at you and interested. How? Treats, favorite phrases, attention-getting sounds.
5. **Fill the frame**, either while shooting or by cropping later in a photo editor.
6. **Tweak as needed.** Achieve true colors, sharper image, straighter lines, brighter lighting with a photo editing tool such as [Picasa](#).
7. **Clean them up.** Primp with a brush and a wipe around eyes and mouth before photo session.
8. **Have a helper.** You concentrate on the shots while the helper works on the wrangling and sweet expressions.
9. **Be patient.** Take tons of shots... you can always delete the duds.

Check out these articles and videos online for more great tips:

[5 Tips from Animal Expert Amy Shojai](#)

[PopArt your Pet](#) These folks make fabulous canvas pop art artwork from a photo of your best friend.

[Some general pointers](#)